CHILDREN'S BEAVER HATS—GIFTS FOR NEW-YEAR—A varied and choice assertment of Girls and Boys' fancy Beaver Hats, presenting one of the most attractive dis-plays of juvenile head coverings to be found in this city—beau-tiful and appropriate articles for New Year's presents.

BANTA'S, corner of Canal and Wooster-sts.

FURS.-CAPES, VICTORINES, TALMAS, MUFFS BANTA, corner of Canal and Wooster-sta.

FURS! FURS!—FOR NEW-YEAR'S GIFTS.—The last of his beautiful and costly FURS, manufactured and selected for the city retail trade. A few sets of the Mink and Sable Furs, large Capes or Cardinals, Must and Caffs, at reduced prices, ranging from \$120 to \$200—worth from \$150 to \$250—and warranted genuine MINK and Sable Furs. Barta, Corner of Canal and Wooster sta.

SILVER, PEARL AND IVORY-HANDLED TABLE

HAIR BRUSHES, NAIL, TOOTH, CLOTH and HAT BAUSSES, Fancy Sosp, Transparent Soap, Hair Gurlin Fluid, Crystalline Pomade, Saponaceous Compound, Kesar Soap Powder, Coloppe, Toilet Mirors, Shaving Stands, Toile Stands, &c., at the sowest prices, at J & C. Berriaw's, No. 801 Broadway.

BAGATELLE TABLES.—A superior article of English and Russian Bagatelle Tables: also, Tivoli Boards, Chees, Chees Tables, Backgammon Boards, &c., for sale by J. & C. Berrian, No. 601 Broadway.

FOR CHRISTMAN AND NEW-YEAR.—The most colemat Holtnay Presents and House Furnishing Goods in the city, can be found at E. V. Haughwout's, Nos. 561 and 165 Broadway. Every article is marked in plain figures, and no deviation can be made. The unparalleled sales of the past few days attest their cheapness. A beautiful selection of Vaces, Bronnes, Marble Clocks, Candelabras, Parian Statuary, Dicing, Tokand Dessert Services, Silver-plated Tes Sets, Chandeliers, & The entire stock must positively be cleared off to save damage in removal to the new store.

PATTY PANS, Cake, Biscuit and Jelly Molds, toe Cream. Blanc Mange and Charlotte de Russe Molds, Almond and Fancy Cake Molds, Meat. Pie and Game Molds, Vogotable Cutters, Jelly Strainers, &c., for sale by J. & C. Berrian, No. 601 Broadway.

FANCY WORKSTANDS.—A great variety of sancy Workstands of foreign and domestic manufacture, for J. & C. Berrian, No. 601 Broadway. HOLIDAY CLOTHING.

HOLIDAY CLOTHING.

Our extensive stock, comprising Raglan, Sack and SurTOUT OVERCOATS, FROCKS, PANTALOONS, VESTS, &c., is such
as combles us to commend them as superior in style and finish
to what can be procured elsewhere, it being our determination
to retain the supremacy of our productions, while the prices are
such as to render them as cheap as the cheapest, while they are such as to reuder them as onesy.

as good as the best.

W.M. T. JENNINGS & Co., No 231 Broad way,

3d door above the Astor House

CURTAIN MATERIALS AND WINDOW SHADES,
AT WHOLESALE.

ESLIT & FERGUSON, No. 221 Broadway, and No. 51 Readest,
here a full and choice stook of BROCATELLES, SATIN DE
LAINES, WORSTED DAMASKS, LACE and MUSLIN CURTAINS,
CORRICES, GIMPS, &c., which are offered at the lowest prices.
WINDOW SHADES.—Our stock of WINDOW SHADES is the
argest in New-York, and our superior manufacturing facilities
enable us to offer these goods less than other houses. We invite the attention of close buyers.

GLYCERINE JELLY FOR THE SKIN .- A white and delicate hand is a first attribute of beauty and civilization.
GLYCERINE LOTION, for Sunburn, Freckles, Rough Skin,
Tan, Acne or Black Spot.
GLYCERINE SOSP.—The use of this SOSP is sanctioned by all
medical men. INGER & Co., Chemists, No. 399 Broatway.

WRERE THEY FIT YOU TO A CHARM.—If you abould set the best-dressed man slong Broadway, the origin of the splendid cost he wears, ten to one that he would answer you, "At Grantife Hall., No. 14? Fullon-d." There is no expense spared at Grantife Hall., to have Coars, Parts, Vests, and every article of clothing, made in the most superb manner, and their prices are low to a proverb. All the elegantes go to Grantife Hall.

JET ORNAMENTS, BROOCHES, BRACELETS, &c

USEFUL PRESENTS.—Choice Sets of FURS of all kinds, at reduced prices. Gentlemen's and Children's Hars and Gaes for Winter, in all their varieties. Call and examine.

KELLOGG, No. 128 Canal 4t., old number. FURS, FURS, FURS, FURS, FURS, FURS, —A superb set of dark Sables for \$195, large Cape, Muff and Coffs, can be seen at Lewis & Seaconn's, No. 655 Broadway.

MEDICINE WITHOUT PAY.

SKATES, SLEIGHS, SLEDS, WAGONS, CABS, Propellers, Hobby Horses, Sheep Hobbies, German Hobbies, Tool Chests, Hoops, Velocipedes, Perambulators, in great variety, of the best materials, and at the lowest prices, may be had J. & C. Berrian's, No. 601 Broadway.

Also, Toy Chairs, Tables, Bureaus, Bedsteads, &c.

WIGS-HAIR-DYE -- WIGS -- BATCHELOR'S

Wies and Tournes have improvements peculiar to their house. They are celebrated all over the world for their graceful beauty, cas, and durability—fitting to a charm. The largest and best stock in the world. Twelve private rooms for applying his farmess Dvn. Seld at Barchelon's, No. 23 Broadway. LAST SALE OF JAPANESE GOODS .- LEAVITT,

Dalisser & Co., Nos. 377 and 379 Broadway, corner of White et, will sell at 11 o'clock This Monning Dec. 31, a fine vari-ety of Japanese and Fancy Goods for the Holidays. Plane-Fortes, at an immease reduction in

price, until the close of the year. Call and see, at the manufactory of John P. Wake & Co., No. 167 (old number) Canal-st. 3 doors west of Variok.

HOLIDAY PRESENTS.
about purchasing Pianos or Melodeons for the
are invited to call and examine the superior assort-

at the warerooms of the subscribers, which they confidently believe cannot be excelled by any others.

No. 566 Broadway, adjoining St. Nicholas Hotel.

PRESENTS FOR GENTLEMEN. Fahloughb Cottans, Rich Nears,
Fun Gaustiers, Traveline Shawls, Silk Shints
and Drawers, superior resdy-made Shints
At low prices. In a Practice & Sox, No. 61 Nasant-

HEAVY RAGLANS and OVERCOATS—Prices ranging from \$5 to \$10. All Win'er Oarments at a small advance above cost.

R. B. BOUGHTON, No. 256 Broadway.

Between Murray and Warren-str.

PRAIRIE CHICKENS PER EXPRESS .-Fine Fat Trukevs, per Express,
NICE CHICKERS, per Express,
GROUSE, RABBITS, &C.,
At the Express Produce Market,
STIMSON & WILLARD,
Nos. 3 Broadway, and 22 Nassanes.

AT ROGERS'S CORNER OF FULTON AND NAS-

JAU-STS - The Boys' CLOTHING has three advantages over all other assortments in the city; the fashions are the newest, the stock the nost varied, and the prices (which are fixed and un-changeable) the very lowest. SINGER'S SEWING MACRINES.-The best of all boilday gifts is one of Singra's latest improved Sewing Ma-chines, which is capable of carning for its owner \$1,000 a year. All whe have tenniar relatives or fitends in needy circumstances, can in this way, at a moderate exponse, provide for their perma meet sad comfortable support.

I. M. SINGER & Co., No. 323 Broadway. URNS FOR NEW-YEAR'S DAY.

PLATED COFFEE URNS, CARE BASKETS, TABLE CASTERS,
LUCTUS HART,
No. 4 and 6 Burling slip.

braking medicament has taken the place of all other in every Dispensary of note throughout the world? Because of its in-trinsic worth and immense sup-riority over all others. Sold at the menufactories, No. 30 Manden-lane, New-York, and No. 244 Strand, London; and by all druggists at 25c., 622c., and \$1 per pot. HOLL WAY'S OINTMENT .- How is it that this

HOLIDAY PRESENTS.—Among the many holiday gifts to an aged frend or to one whose hair is falling off or turning prematurely gray, we know of nothing more acceptable than a few bottles of Prof. Wood's HAIR RESTORATIVE, to be found at No. 312 Broadway.

GOLD AND SILVER WATCHES, Diamone Rings and Pins, J. wetter and Stiver Ware for sale at wholesale and retail, at less than the usual prices, by G. C. Allen, Importer of Watches and Jewelry, No. 11 Wall sty second floor, near Broadway.

There will be an important meeting of the Trustees and also of the Stockholders of the PROPLE'S COLLEGE at Havana, Chemung Co., on Thursday, Jan. 8, to act on the question of locating said College. It is understood that another place beside Havana has condition ally subscribed more than \$10,000 to the stock of said College with a view of competing for the location. All interested in the College are invited to be present.

FROM CURACOA. - By the arrival of the bark Venus Capt. Atkinson, from Curacoa, we have received advices from that port to Dec. 7. The health of the Lland was good. The cholera is still prevailing in Venezuela. Salt is worth 70 cents per barrel. Politi cal affairs are quiet in Venezuela.

GRORGE D. PRENTICE. - The newspapers notice a remor that George D. Prestice is about removing to new toadd a few reflections in connection with this lowing facts:
St. Louis, to establish a paper. Ho is at present lying case on a point of interest to ererybody. How I. John C. Fremont was never "the Atlantic

New York Daily Tribune

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1866.

TO CORRESPONDENTS. notice can be taken of anonymous Gommunications. What ever is intended for insertion must be anthenticated by the name and address o the writer—not nocesurily for publication, but as a guaranty of his good faith.

caunot undertake to return rejected Communications.

sames undertage to remistances, frequently omit to meet tion the name of the Fost-Office, and very frequently the name of the State, to which their paper is to be sent. Always mention the name of the Post-Uffice and State.

about Jan. 4, owing to the necessity of replacing some of our tables of Election Returns by others later and more complete, We believe this Almanac will give fuller and better Returns than were ever before published so soon after a Presidentia Flection. Its lists of Members of Congress, present and prospective, synopsis of the acts of this Congress at its first ression account of the long contest for Speaker, chronology of event ir Kansas, narrative of Walker's doings and (almost) undoing in Nicaragua, with the full text of Thomas Jefferson's original Ordinance for the Government of the Federal Territories, &c. &c., render this a most valuable handbook for the politician of student of history. Orders inclosing cash will be filled in the order of their reception. See advertisement in another column.

In the SENATE, yesterday, the Consular and Diplomatic Appropriation bill was passed.
In the House, the political debate on the Presider t's message was continued by Messrs. burne, Marshall and Harris of Illinois.

The conclusion, verdict and sentence in the Huntington trial, will be found in another portion of this paper.

The steamer Edinburgh arrived at this port yesterday, having left Glasgow on the 13th. She brings no later news. Nothing had been heard of the Hermann or the Vigo when our paper went to press this morning.

The trial of Huntington, which has been before the Court and in the newspapers for the last two weeks, has at last been brought to a just conclusion by a verdict of guilty and the sentence of the prisoner to four years and ten months in the State Prison. The progress of the trial has somewhat stripped the case of the mysterious and inexplicable circumstarces with which it had been invested. Still, it may justly claim to rank among celebrated causes-not, however, entirely or mainly from any interest imparted to it by Huntington himself. He msy be considered, indeed, as having become but a very secondary personage in the drama of his own trial. Though, so far as legal consequences are concerned, he has been placed at the bar, and though the case will always go by his name in the books, yet, considered not merely as a trial before the Court of Sessions, but as a proceeding before the great tribunal of the public, quite a number of other parties have been brought into question. A large part of the closing argument for the pris-

oner was taken up in the defense not so much of the prisoner as of the prisoner's counsel. The prisoner's counsel considered themselves as standing charged in the public prints with having resorted, in setting up the plea of insanity, to a desperate attempt to delude the Jury into an acquittal; and, whatever may have been the case with the newspapers, the closing argument for the Government did certainly contain such a charge, very explicitly put. That argument ascribed to the junior counsel for the prisoner the invention of this project of insanity (unless, indeed, a part of the credit of it was to be shared with Huntington himself)-an idee, it was alleged, which, up to the time of the consultations of Huntington with his junior counsel, had never occurred to anybody else of all Huntington's relatives and business connections, and an idea suggested only by the absolute desperation of defending him on any other ground. To his numerous frauds in matters of money perpetrated upon individuals, it was alleged that Huntington, with the assistance of his counsel, was now seeking to add a new fraud in a matter of science, to be perpetrated on the Jury, as a means of defense against the consequences of his business frauds. And in this new fraud-such was the case presented on the part of the Government-he had not merely legal but medical assistance in the testimony of the two physicians which, so far as the defense of insanity was concerned, formed the only testimony of any weight in the case.

There was no charge or insinuation that those two medical men were in any way parties to the alleged conspiracy to cheat the Jury into a verdict of acquittal. Still the view taken of their conduct in the case, in allowing themselves to be made the tools of that conspiracy, did implicate their professional character, and still more their character as men of sense and good citizens, in a very serious degree. It was alleged as a very noticeable circumstance, and one well calculated to brow discredit on the good faith of the prisoner's counsel, that they had sprung this defense of itsanity as it were by surprise. Instead of giving notice, as is usual in such cases and highly reasonable, that they believed or suspected the prisoner to be insane, and that they intended to defend him on that ground, at the same time requesting the Government to join with them in a medical examination having in view, not the manufacture of testimony, but the discovery of the facts-instead of adopting this course, the prisoner's counsel had kept the whole matter to themselves. and had set on foot a private medical examination, for the very purpose of deceiving the medical gentlemen and deluding them into a premature committal of themselves-a practice upon them which, it was alleged, had completely succeeded, and in part by their own fault in consenting to take part in any such private and one-sided procedure.

But it was not only on the side of the Goverament that charges were made involving others beside Huntington. The prisoner's counsel turned with ferocity, almost, upon the parties who had suffered losses by the forgeries, holding them forth to the Jury in the character of confederates with Huntington in schemes to plunder the public, which having been carried out, they had turned round, induced Huntington to make them an assignment of all his property, and were now attempting to send him to the Penitentiary, in the course of which operation they did not stick even at perjury. To this charge against the Government's witnesses may be added the denunciations on the part of the medical witnesses sgainst the law of insanity as laid down by the Judges of England and in our own Courts, which they represented as based on an utter ignorance of the whole subject; and on he part of the prisoner's counsel denunciations sgainst Wall street and the newspapers of interfering with the right of the prisoner to a fair trial by raising a senseless and irrational and ignorant clamor against the defense which had been set up for him. This slight sketch will serve to show the number of parties beside Huntington whom the course of this trial has implicated. We proceed

are we to distinguish between crime and insanity ? It is plain, from the testimony of Huntington's father and the other evidence in relation to his childhood and youth, that as a child and school-boy he showed on several occasions a want of moral sensibility. But there does not appear to be anything testified to in this respect which goes at all beyond the usual freaks of thoughtless and reckless school-boys. Cares much more striking might, we think, be furnished from every school of fifty or a hundred pupils. It seemed, in fact, to be admitted that these incidents of his youth, standing by themselves alone, were of little moment, and that it was only by connecting them with subsequent incidents that they could be taken as proofs of an unsound mind. In the early part of his career, after leaving home, nothing appears of so unusual a character that the hypothesis of insanity seems necessary to explain it. He went into business, and failed, paying ten cents on the dollar-an incident quite in the ordinary line. He started a good many business projects, and on the strength of these projects succeeded in obtaining from friends and acquaintances advances to the extent of more than a hundred thousand dollars, all of which he sunk-running in debt at the commencement of his more recent operations, a year or so age, to that amount or more. Now the only thing very remarkable about this is, his having been able to induce others to intrust him with money to such an amount, and which he employed with results so little beneficial to those who advanced it. The ability to do that may prove re markable powers of persuasion, and a good deal of recklessness in his assertions and representations; but his success in doing it does not seem very consistent with the supposition of insanity. There are many curious stories told of particular instances of art and cunning practiced by insane persons, but the medical books record no instance, that we know, of any crazy man who ever managed to get himself intrusted with large sums of money, advanced to

h m by business men for business operations. It appears that in the course of these operations he did not scruple to commit three or four forgeries; but the same art, or skill, or persuasiveness, whichever it was, which had enabled him to obtain credit to so unusual an extent, enabled him to smooth over these affairs and to escape prosecution. He was, however, indicted for setting on foot a fraudu lent bank; but from that indictment he escaped without trial. It is impossible to say what effect such experiences might have produced upon a erszy man; but upon a sane man whose moral faculties were rather obtuse, it is not difficut to conjecture how they might have operated. They might naturally have given him a strong confidence in his capacity to in fuce other people to intrust him with their money. They might naturally have rendered the idea of detection in a forgery, and of indictment for fraud, less alarming to him than to others. Operating in this way, they might naturally have induced him to venture upon a new line of speculation, the basis of which, on his part, was his power of securing the confidence of other men as the originator and conductor of profitable business operations, and his readiness to take advantage of this confidence to pa'm off forged paper for

To establish insanity, it is not sufficient to show conduct such as sets reason and conscience at defiance. Daily experience proves that men are frequently subject to the influence of motives sufficiently powerful to draw them off from the restraints of conscience and reason, and often to plunge them even into crime. If a man acts apparently without any of the motives whick usually prompt such actions, there may be ground to conclude he is insane; but how is it possible to predicate insanity of actions apparently resulting from precisely the very motives by which in human experience such actions are always produced?

What is there to distinguish the case of Huntington from that of any other person who obtains money by fraudulent means? The reckless way is which he spent his money only proves the force of the temptations operating upon bim to drive him to get money-money at all events-honestly if he could, but money sny how. It appears that he unfortunately had a taste for fine clothes, fine furniture, jewelry, horses, equipages-in all of which he seems to have been a connoisseur. Such tastes, however innocent in themselves, have driven many people into dishonesty beside Huntington. He made a great deal of paper'-to borrow the expression of one of the witnesses. But for what did he make it? Was it merely in obedience to an insane impulse, or did he make it to get the money on it? So far as appears, his impulse to make this paper was entirely regulated by his success in getting advances upon it. The things in which Huntington's insanity is supposed to have manifested itself were, his method of getting money, and his method of spending it. But why resort to a supposition of insanity, when his whole conduct in these respects may be amply explained without any such supposition? To hold him insane, it would seem to be necessary to show either motives operating in his case, such as never influence sane men or the absence in his case of the motives by which sane men are ordinarily instigated to such acts.

In all former Presidential contests, the victorious party have had the decency to stop slandering the defeated candidate so soon as the result was known; but the case of Col. Fremont is made a conspicuous exception. The National organ of the successful party originated, a month after the election, the foul calumny that Col. Frement repaired secretly to Philadelphia during the canvass, and, while there concealed, sought and obtained an interview with Mr. Newton, one of the Fillmore Electors, whom he tried to buy over to his (F.'s) support. The Pennsylvanian, Mr. Buchanan's State organ, greedly copied this calumny from The Union; and though Mr. Newton promptly and emphatically contradicted this libel, stating that he never saw Col. Fremont but once, and that months before he was nominated for President, and never had any political conversation with him, and it was abundantly proved that Col. Fremont was not in Philadelpia at all while a candidate for President, yet neither The Union nor The Pennsylvanian promptly copied this refutation of their ca'umny, and we believe neither of them has done so to this day.

The Albany Atlas, which hates the Free-Soil standard-bearer in the late contest with all the ma ice of a conspicuous renegade, continues to assail him in paragraphs like the following:

"John C. Fremont is the Atlantic agent for this house, [Paimer, Cook & Co.], and is a partner with it in the Mariposa speculation. We have understood that Col. F.'s sole business in New-York was to conthat Col. F.'s sole business in New-York was to con-duct the agency of this banking house, at a salary of \$12,000 per annum.

"The concern, by a breach of trust, placed the State of California in the dishonorable dilemma of repudiating the interest on its debt.

"So far as Col. F. is concerned, the State has signal-by retailated. It has repudiated him."

To this tissue of columnias, we concern the fol-

To this tissue of calumnies, we oppose the fol-

"agent of this house." George W. Wright, the only partner of Mesers. Palmer and Cook, has been in the Atlantic States for more than a year past, and we think most of the time since 1850. The agent of the house in this city, while it did business here, was John Cook, jr., brother of one of the

2. John C. Fremont has no "partner in the "Mariposa speculation." The estate was purchased for him in his absence by a friend, and has ever since been his only. As it was unproductive, while involving him in a costly litigation, it is highly probable that he at one time borrowed money of Palmer Cook & Co., and gave them some lien on his property to secure the loan. But he is not their partner, though we believe be cherishes a grateful remembrance of their endeavors to serve him.

3. Col. Fremont was never an agent of this or any other banking-house, no matter at what salary. His own business is sufficient to employ his time, and his means such as not to require him to take a

4. When it was annourced that Palmer, Cook & Co. could not pay the interest on the Public Debt of California, Col. Frement offered, for the honor of the State and in attestation of his confidence in and grateful regard for Palmer, Cook & Co., to pledge his own credit and means (which were ample, though not instantly available,) to any capitalist or bank which would protect the faith of the State by paying the interest, pending further advices from California. We think there are parties who now regret that they did not respond to this generous proffer.

5. It is true that Col. Fremont received but 20,000 votes in California last month. It is also true that no Republican candidate, or candidate running on distinctly Republican principles, ever before received even 5,000 in that State. We think no intelligent man in California believes that any other candidate, running in Col. Fremont's stead, would have received half so many. Georgia, in which Col. Fremont was born, and South Carolins, in which he was reared, gave him no votes at all-simply because he stood on that platform whence The Atlas has apostatized. Had he been hand and glove with The Atlas of to-day rather than that of 1848, he would have been enthusiastically supported by all these States. He lost them by his fidelity to the principles which underlie the Declaration of Independence, which The Atlas has so lately renounced. Which has the greater cause for exultation!

"And more true joy Marcellus, exiled, feels Than Casar with a Senate at his heels."

The proclivities of Spanish affairs at this moment strike us as inevitably toward a revolution. The Queen, who was once loved, is now hated: that young Princess, in whose name the Spanish people battled for liberal government and equal rights during twenty years against the pricate, the Inquisition and the Absolutists under Don Carlos, is now cursed in every corner, in every hamlet of her kingdom. Such is the result because she has played false to her people and desired to reign tyrannically, broken compacts with the nation, trampled on the Constitution, dismissed the Parliament, disowned the militia and spilled their blood, sent the best citizens to prison or forced them into exile, levied illegal taxes, shackled the press, despised her legal counselors, thrown herself into the arms of a jesuitical and corrupt priesthood, and attempted to set up her own will simply over every law, every interest and every stipulation, no matter how solemp, or how vital to the organization of the Spanish State.

In July, 1854, the people, irritated by a long series of these wrongs, rose in insurrection, con-quered the forces of her Government, and pushed their barricades up to within pistol-shot of her royal chamber. The Queen thus was in their hands, but they respected her. She went on her knees to the people, and they generously pardoned her. She was young. She said that she had listened to bad counselors, and that they had not told her the truth; but, now that her eyes were opened, she wished to place herself unreservedly in the power of her beloved people. Whatever they wished should be done, and she never again would he led into similar error. Instead of deposing her, they gave her a guard of honor from the barrica les, and peace was restored. But folly and falsehood on her part succeeded, and there seems accordingly no escape for her from ruin. Any slackening of tyrannical authority would be used against herany concession would but precipitate a revolution. On the other hand, every additional act of repression adds force to the slumbering resistance. This latter course is, therefore, the only one now left to the Queen and Court. Both roads lead to the same result; but the course of repression presents the advantage of a momentary delay, and perhaps a deluded Court inspires her Majesty with delusive

On the nights of the 19th and 21st of November a number of imprisonments were effected in Madrid. On the 22d, the police were in search of Gen. Prim. The house of General O'Donnell was aurrounded day and night by police agents. Neither the General himself nor the ladies of his family could go out to walk or ride, without one or two constantly dogging them. On the nights of the 19th. 20th and 21st November, the troops of the garrison stood to their arms all night. The Government mistrusts the troops also, and constantly fears the mutiny of one corps or another; and no doubt it is right. The sestiment of the bulk of the army is now against the Queen and with the people.

Still, we do not believe that Madrid or Spain is

at this moment upon the eve of any great movement. The little insurrection at Malaga, and the unquiet state of the capital, are merely symptoms. The Government of the Queen promises to continue for some months. One great question, however, may come in so forcibly as to precipitate the action of the principles in play, and force more immediate results. This is the old revolution-meter -scarcity of bread. The lack of this is now more severely felt every day in Spain. On the 22d of November, the price of the ordinary two-pound loaf again went up at Madrid a cent and a half. This loaf, ordinarily quoted there at six cents and in the Provinces at four or five cents, is now sold at Madrid for fourteen ceuts, and in the Provinces at from eleven to fifteen cents. This, to a people whose chief aliment is bread, is pretty nearly equivalent to putting the whole Peninsula on half rations.

The scarcity of food is by a terrible fatality combined also with a scarcity of labor and means. The unsettled state of politics has paralyzed industrial enterprise. The long drouth has made labor in the fields in a great degree useless and impossible. The plowman cannot prepare the earth; the grain, if sown, does not germinate. Even the laborer who can find work does not gain at the highest more than twenty-five cents a day, and in some districts enly ten cents. With such facts as regards wages,

quoted at Madrid on the 21st of November: Beef, seet price, 10 cents, and the good pieces 25 cents; mutton, 12 cents; real, 15 to 97 cents; freeh pork, 17 cents, salted, 20 cents; ham, 26 to 37 cents; wheat, 1,452 bushels sold, \$4 75 a bushel; barley, used for horses and cattle, \$2 65; potatoes, 24 cents a pound; charcoal, the only fuel for cooking used at Madrid, 2 cents a pound. It will readily be seen, by a comparison of these prices with the rate of wager, that the laborer who has a family to support, even if he have employment, will be bardly able to maintain them alive. Thus it is a fact that already in Madrid, and in various provinces, families are slowly and gradually dying of hunger. If such be true at this season, when the fruits of the earth are all gathered and abundance ought to prevail, what will it be in the Springtime and early Summer? There is still wheat in the Peninsula; but, within four or five months, what will be the price of bread, with the old stocks of grain exhausted and but little hope in the coming crop

The Government is doing all in its power to prevent the famine; but the treasury is without funds and the measures of the Administration thus far do not promise to replenish it. Nevertheless, on the 20th inst., a royal decree (the only kind of legislation existing) appropriates the sum of \$3,000,000 for the purchase of grain to be brought into the Peninsula on account of Government. The municipal authorities throughout the kingdom have also appropriated large sums to the purchase of grain, especially in those districts and towns where the Government supposes it has the most to fear from s movement of the people. The city authorities of Madrid are making and selling rather a poor quality of bread for ten cents the loaf, the bakers selling for fourteen, and the price in ordinary times being five or six cents. Apropos: we advise the Spanish Legation at Washington to advise their Government to have Berdan's Automaton Ovens put up in each of the principal Spanish cities. But in spite of all these efforts the result is thus far trifling and the price of bread in Spain is still rising. With an impoverished treasury and a famine ahead, the Queen's Government has thought proper to double the force of the army; and the new battalions are out in flaming new uniforms, and equipments of a new pattern-all done by Royal

On the 22d of October and the 15th of November her Majesty signed decrees making the army in time of peace: Infantry of the line, 84,000; Chasseurs, or riflemen, 16,000; Civil Guard, or gens d'armes, 12,000; Artillery, 12,000; Cavalry, 12,000; Engineers, 3,600-making in all 139,600. Beside these there are corps of Carbineers under the direction of the Custom-House authorities to prevent smuggl ng; a fixed regiment at Ceuta; municipal guards in the great towns, and other corps destined to special services, which with the corps of the staff and officers unemployed, but who draw pay, raise the military force of Spain at present to not less than 160,000 men. Of these there are captaingenerals, or field marshals, 6; lieutenant-generals, 72; marshals of the camp, or major-generals, 179; brigadiers, 359-being of general officers 616, and officers of lesser grades in the same abundance. So that there is one general for every 240 men, or thereabout.

Such are the means reli d upon by the Spanish Government to prevent the evils of a famine among the people and to preserve the throne.

A delusion has prevailed very extensively in this country that the Post Office Department was established and is supported for the convenience and advantage of the public at large. Nothing can be more remote from the truth than this extravagant peraussion. Had Sir Thomas Browne lived to this day, he would assuredly have rauked this chimera among the Vulgar Errors he once treated of; and had Charles Lamb had his desk in Wall-street instead of Leadenhalt-street, he would have classed it among the Popular Fallacies he wrote an Essay to disprove, or he would have been guilty of a sin of emission. The duties of the Post-Office Department are three-fold: First, to conduct the business it cannot help doing in such a way as to cause the least trouble and inconvenience to the Postmaster General and his deputies. endly, to exercise a wise supervision over the great National Institution of Slavery in the South, and to see to it that the Republic suffers no detriment in that direction. And, thirdly, to promote everywhere, by all the means its extensive ramification puts at its disposal, the interests of the Democratic party and its continuance in power. Subordinate to these paramount duties, and halting a long way behind them, comes the mere vulgar transportation and distribution of letters and newspapers.

Our readers have been made aware from time to time of the little liberties which have been taken by these guardians of the public safety and morality with our own harmless sheet. Our subscribers in Virginia and elsewhere in the South have been refused permission to receive THE TRIBUNE by these conservators of the peace. We have even attracted the attention of the Grand Jury of Harrison County, Virginia, and have at this moment an indictment hanging over our heads to the utter destruction of our peace of mind. Beside this, it is proposed to make it a penal offense in any one in the Ancient Dominion to receive our innocent lucubrations. And all this is owing to the vigilant eye kept upon what passes through their offices by the Deputy Postmasters, in obedience to the Higher Law which transcend in its jurisdiction the simple authority of the Constitution and Laws of the mere United States. In the Free States as well as the Slave, the services of these multitudinous agents are demanded to assist in preserving the Union, by keeping in power the only men who are capable of that delicate pro cess of political cookery. We have had occasion than once to speak of the zeal of some of the

earnest patriots which would make it a part e post-magisterial duty to hinder the circulation of such prints as ours, and to promote by their official influence and helping that of papers of a more wholesome character.

It is not much more than twenty years since to the duties of Postmasters. The improvement was fitly inaugurated, however, and in the fittest place. On the 30th of July, 1835, the citizens of Charleston, S. C., learning that certain publications not to their mind had arrived at the Post Office of that city, arose in their majesty, broke open the mail-bags, seized the offending documents, and offered them up as a holocaust to Slavery. The Charleston Postmaster wrote to Amos Kendall, then Postmaster-General, for instructions, should a like outrage be attempted seain on the sensibilities of his fellow-citizens through the mails. That conscientious but patriotic minister replied that "we owe an obligation "to the laws, but a higher one to the community when they can be had through employment so cut "in which we live; and, if the former be percented down, let us look at the prices of provisions as "to destroy the latter, it is patriotism to disregard the States. Their sole latter was to act on the

"them " Thus these triffing liberties taken with the national snail-begs were recognized as logd under the Higher Law of Slavery by the Head of the Department, and we cannot wonder that it should be regarded as a standing instruction in the cases ever since.

At the next meeting of Congress, President Jack

on brought the subject to its notice, and some

very remarkable doings followed in the Senste-

having the double object of protecting Slavery and

of cornering Mr. Van Buree. On the 2d of June,

1836, a bill was introduced into the Secate, for-

bidding Deputy Postmas'ers from receiving or transmitting through the mail any pamphlets, newspapers, handbills, or other printed papers or pictorial representations touchirg on Slavery, to any Slave State, Territory or District. If offered, they were to be returned to the person offering them, and, if not accepted, to be burned by the Post master. Mr. Calhoun moved, as an amendment. that they should be delivered to some person ap Sointed for the purpose by the several States, or n case none such were appointed, that they should be destroyed by the Postmaster, without further ceremony. This, however, was rejected. When the time came for passing the bill to a third reading, there was a tie-18 voting for and 18 against it. This was the critical instant of Mr. Van Buren's political life. But he met the emergency promptly, and, by voting ay, elected himself Pres ident for the next term. When the vote on the final passage came to be taken, June 8, the bill was rejected by 25 nees to 13 ayes-several Senators voting against its final passage who had voted for the third reading. So there can be little doubt that the tie was preconcerted for the purpose of testing the loyalty and the nerve of the Vice-President. We may add that Mr. Buchanan swelled the list of the works of supererogation, in virtue of which he is on the eve of translation to the paradise of the White House, by the grace of consistently voting for the erection of every Postmaster into a Grand Inquisitor of heretical publications. We do not know whether this great Battle of the

Books, in which our South Carolinian brethren came off conquerors, and more than conquerors, has ever been sung in epic or in lyric verse. But we would commend it to Mr. Joseph Brennan, as a theme more worthy to be celebrated in a Lay of the Young South than "the waddling bull-pup Hale," or "Sumner, snarling poodle-pet," of the ballad with which we delighted our readers not long ago. Miss Anna Elia Carroll, too, who lately sounder abroad the glories of the Union, in a prose poem of some sixty pages, might here find inspiration befitting her pedestrian Muse. "Come," she exclaims. with the rapture of a Pythoness, "Come, ye proud-"est of historians-Bapcroft, Hume and Helliard (meaning Hildreth, we presume); come, ye muses, "Apollo, Calliope, Calypso, and ce'ebrate the in-"effable grandeur of this Western Empire!" But, while these bards are tuning their lyres, we are happy to say that that great event, and the matters immediately preceding and following it, have not been left without a Northern historian worthy of the companionship of these two great Southern writers. Mr. Samuel Eliot, Professor o History and Literature in Trinity College (Hartford, not Cambridge, we presume), has devoted a page of his Manual of the History of the United States to this matter. He says: "The mails were "burdened with papers intended to excite a general "insurrection, or at least a general alarm. As a " natural consequence, the Post-Offices were broken into, and the obnoxious publications destroyed." Had this veracious historian thought it worth his while to verify the facts he thus flippantly takes for granted, he would have found that nothing could well be farther from the truth than the character he gives of the publications in question, and which, we infer from his tone of relating it, he thinks justified their violent and felonious destruction.

The publications which suffered this martyrdom

were copies of The Emancipator newspaper, of

The Slave's Friend and of The Anti-Slavery Record. They contained no word addressed to the slaves, unless it were of counsel to submit themselves peaceably to their condition. They were made up of arguments and appeals directed solely to the masters, as were just and equal. Mr. R. G. Williams, the Publishing Agent of the American Anti-Slavery Society, in a card in the New-York papers, justly said that these documents were addressed not to the slave, but to his master; and, in using the press and the United States mail to address the understanding and conscience of their fellow-citizens who hold 'slaves, they did but exercise one of the most sacred rights which the Constitution has guaranteed to every citizen." The public were informed that they might be supplied gratis with the offending documents-a permission which was used with such eagerners that the Society had to print large extra editions to supply the demand. Had there been the shadow of a preteuse that they were of the incendiary character attributed to them by Mr. Eliot, it could not have escaped the myriads of scrutinizing eyes which starched them for this very purpose. Equally false is the description he gives of the method of the early Abolitionists, where he says: "Abolitionism was so called from its demands that Slavery should be abolished, and this immediately, without reference to the Constitution or the institutions of the South, the claims of the master, or the fortunes of the slaves. Whatever its motives, its course was professedly unscrupulous, 'sparing neither of the interests against which tit was directed." After this account of the principles and practices of the Abolitionists, we cannot be surprised at his dismissing the disgraceful Northern mobs of that year in one cool sentence, as fellows: " Meetings were held (at the North), and mobs were gathered against the places where the Abolitionists met and the offices whence they 'issued their publications!" The learned Professor probably holds that the mobs were the "natural consequence" of the heresies, and therefore necessarv and right.

In point of fact, it is almost comical to read the language and doctrines which excited all the disturbance, and compare it with what such papers as The Evening Post, The Boston Atlas and The Courier and Enquirer now hold as to Slavery, and what is daily spoken in Congress and scattered by the Press over the Union. The Auti-Slavery Movement in its inception was eminently a religious one. The American Anti-Slavery Society, in its Declaration of Sentiments and Constitution, expressly disclaimed any countenance to the slaves in any insurrectionary rising. Whatever views the Abolitionists of the extremer sort now entertain of the Constitution, they then held that political action under it might be used for legitimate Anti-Slavery purposes. Far from being "professedly unscrupulous," they were, in word and deed, most exactly careful not to transcend the law of Grd or of the land. They denied the